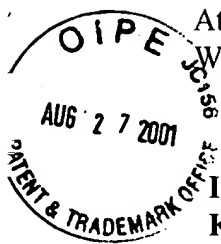


#3



Attorney Docket No. F-5727
W&W Ref: 1417P P 590

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:
Kok-Hwee Ng et al.

Serial No: 09/864,926

Filed: May 24, 2001

For: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
AUTOMATING THE WORKFLOW IN
A BLOOD COLLECTION FACILITY

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) Examiner: Unknown
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) Art Unit:
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please delete the noted paragraphs and replace them with paragraphs printed below (marked up copies of the corresponding pages are attached as Attachments A, B, and C).

✓ Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 5 at line 30 and ending on page 6 at line 14 with the following paragraph:

- - The present invention is directed to an apparatus or system for collecting, using, and storing information in a biological fluid collection and/or processing facility ("facility"). The present invention can be incorporated into an existing facility's system via an upgrade to existing hardware

08/29/2001 EABUBAK1 00000009 230280 09864926

01 FC:102 320.00 OP
02 FC:103 8.00 CH 154.00 OP